

From: Ruth Vanderpool
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am sure that you have read many e-mails complaining about the unethical behavior of Microsoft and while I believe that is true I thought it might scare you into thinking correcting Microsoft's behavior might in fact just be the revenge of a few. Granted the government is allowed to charge for past wrongs and thereby provide a financial incentive to correct the behavior, but I believe Microsoft is guilty of something much more concrete that is not in need of retribution but correction. This being monopolistic behavior.

Having heard a mixture of these ideas the courts have come up with a settlement, but this settlement does little to correct the negative behavior that Microsoft is able to do in our economy.

If you recall from basic economic, monopolies operating in a free market are both inefficient and wasteful. It has been shown that while Microsoft is not a pure monopoly it does control a large enough percentage of the market to act that way. The only way of changing this is to allow entry into the market by other competitors, this settlement does not encourage that. In fact the language seems to do little more then provide Microsoft with loopholes in which to escape from. I don't have the time to point out each of these cases but a lot of my views have been reflected in the group letter on-line at <http://www.kegel.com/remedy/letter.html> .

Thank you for listening and I hope this will encourage you to create a stronger settlement that will be more effective.

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